
Our Share in the India

Young Womens Christian Association

City

Student

Vernacular

Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Madras, Singapore

National Board of Young Womens Christian Associations
600 Lexington Avenue, New York City
September, 1914

INDIA

¶ India has nine American secretaries. Five secretaries with their outfits and journeys are needed in India this present year.

Traveling secretaries for city, student and vernacular work must be supplied to India.

The vernacular work (in the Indian dialects) is growing in importance and will increasingly demand supervision.

Industrial employment of Indian women is begun in Bombay. It is growing rapidly in other ports. The Association in India has begun work in the mills.

¶ The education of Indian women has been neglected until recently, the government having opened some elementary schools for women. The number in higher institutions is less than five hundred, and these women who will take such large share in the moulding of Indian womanhood may to-day be reached for Christ, through the Association.

The student Young Women's Christian Association provides hotels for the residence of Indian and Anglo-Indian students. This department is developed in most of the cities of India where the American Association works.

Calcutta is to-day without a secretary. Its student membership numbers four hundred and five.

The one available student secretary was transferred

to Madras because a new student hostel had been opened by the government on condition that an association secretary be in charge.

¶ India is a British possession with 312,000,000 people, of whom less than 4,000,000 are Christians. It has a relatively small European population which includes thousands of Anglo-Indians, in whose veins runs some of the best blood of their English ancestry. Socially nothing has been expected of these young women and while nominally Christian, their opportunities for development have been very limited. The government has been slowly recognizing its neglect and has been opening to them posts as stenographers, teachers and nurses.

In the cities the Young Women's Christian Association is the most adaptable agency for the care of these young women. The government co-operates in providing Association buildings and boarding homes for Anglo-Indian young women. Their general Association activities are similar to those of the Association in America.

